

ATTACHMENT - CLAIMS LISTING

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1–27. (Canceled)

28. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for receiving an application made by an applicant and for assessing the application by a plurality of application recipients, said apparatus comprising:

computer memory; and

a processor for executing instruction for:

- (a) collecting at least two sets of decision criteria from at least two application recipients, each set comprising one or more decision criteria, and each decision criterion having a respective value, boundary or range;
- (b) determining respective unions of the values, boundaries or ranges of respective same decision criterion present in the at least two sets of decision criteria by analyzing the data value, boundary or range boundary requirements of each same decision criteria in the at least two sets of decision criteria;
- (c) generating a superset of decision criteria which comprises at least one decision criterion from the at least two sets of decision criteria with the determined respective union of values, boundary or ranges;
- (d) storing or accessing the superset of decision criteria;
- (e) presenting the applicant with a request for application information constituting the application for the two or more of the plurality of application recipients, said application information being requested by queries associated with said superset of decision criteria for the two or more of the plurality of application recipients;
- (f) receiving the application information;
- (g) accessing said decision criteria of said application recipients;

- (h) accessing said application according to said decision criteria of each of said application recipients; and
- (gi) forming a respective separate assessment of said application for each of said application recipients, each respective separate assessment being an approval or a rejection of the application.

29. (Currently Amended) The apparatus as claimed in claim 28, wherein the processor is further for executing instruction for:

- (a) requesting application information for the two or more of the plurality of application recipients by presenting a number of questions or a number of sets of questions in sequence to said applicant;
- (b) receiving responses to said questions from said applicant, wherein said application information constitutes or is determined from said responses; and
- (c) ~~optimizing said sequence to reduce~~reducing or ~~minimize~~minimizing said number of questions or sets of questions by adjusting said sequence.

30. (Currently Amended) The apparatus as claimed in claim 28, further ~~comprises~~ comprising:

- an input device for said applicant to input said application to said ~~processor~~ computer memory; and
- a communication device for communicating or sending said assessments of said application to said applicant.

31. (Currently Amended) The apparatus as claimed in claim 28, wherein said processor is further for executing instruction for:

- (a) presenting to the applicant a first selected form and ~~to receive~~ receiving the first selected form containing first information after completion by the applicant,
- (b) constructing and immediately presenting to said applicant a second form pertaining to a respective selection from said ~~superset~~ of decision criteria for ~~the two or more of the plurality of application recipients~~ where said respective

selection is made by said ~~computing means~~ processor from said ~~superset of~~ all application decision criteria on the basis of the first information provided by said applicant in said completed and received first selected form and ~~to receive~~ receiving, via an input device, the second form containing second information after completion by the applicant, and then to progressively construct and immediately present to said applicant one or more subsequent forms pertaining to a respective selection from said superset of decision criteria where said respective selection is made by said processor from ~~said superset of~~ all decision criteria on the basis of some of the information previously provided by said applicant in previously completed and received forms and ~~to receive~~ receiving the one or more subsequent forms after completion by the applicant,

- (c) ~~so that~~ wherein sufficient data entry fields are ultimately presented to said applicant in said second and the one or more subsequent forms to constitute the completed application, and
- (d) ~~so that~~ wherein the requesting of unnecessary information in said second and the one or more subsequent forms, which unnecessary information being information rendered redundant by the information provided by the applicant in an already completed form, can be avoided.

32. (Currently Amended) A method for receiving an application made by an applicant and for accessing the application by a plurality of application recipients, the method comprising the steps of:

- a) collecting in a computer memory at least two sets of decision criteria from at least two application recipients, each set comprising one or more decision criteria, and each decision criterion having a respective value, boundary or range;
- b) determining with a processor a respective union of the values, boundaries or ranges for each respective same decision criterion present in the at least two sets of decision criteria by analyzing the data value, boundary or range

boundary requirements of each decision criteria in the at least two sets of decision criteria;

- c) generating with said processor a superset of decision criteria which comprises at least one decision criterion from the at least two sets of decision criteria with the determined respective union of values, boundary or ranges;
- d) determining with said processor application information which is required from the applicant to assess the application against the superset of decision criteria for the two or more of the plurality of application recipients;
- e) presenting the applicant with a request for the application information, constituting the application for the two or more of the plurality of application recipients with said processor, the application information being requested by queries associated with the superset of decision criteria for the two or more of the plurality of application recipients;
- f) electronically receiving the application information from said applicant;
- g) electronically assessing the application with said processor according to the approval decision criteria of each of said application recipients; and
- h) electronically forming a respective separate assessment for each of said application recipients with said processor, wherein each respective separate assessment formed is an approval or a rejection of the application.

33. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 32, further comprising the steps of:

electronically presenting a number of questions or a number of sets of questions in sequence to said applicant ~~for the two or more of the plurality of application recipients;~~

electronically receiving responses to said questions from said applicant, wherein said application information constitutes or is determined from said responses; and

~~electronically optimizing said sequence to reduce or minimize~~ reducing or minimizing said number of questions or sets of questions by adjusting said sequence.

34. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 32, further comprising the steps step of electronically communicating or sending said assessments of said application to said applicant.

35-48. (Canceled)

49. (Currently Amended) The apparatus as claimed in claim 28, wherein the processor is further for executing instruction for:

- (a) determining any dependency of any of said decision criteria on any other,
- (b) requesting the application information by presenting a number of questions or a number of sets of questions in sequence to the applicant,
- (c) promoting in said sequence, so as to be presented and thereby presenting sooner, those questions whose responses render a high, or the greatest possible, number of later questions redundant, and
- (d) omitting any questions thereby rendered redundant.

50. (Currently Amended) The apparatus as claimed in claim 28, wherein the processor is further for executing instruction for:

requesting the application information by presenting a number of questions or a number of sets of questions in sequence to said applicant ~~for the two or more of the plurality of application recipients~~, said questions comprising groups of questions pertaining to respective types of application information; and

including an introductory question in at least one of said groups of questions to reduce ambiguity in the respective group of questions.

51. (Currently Amended) The apparatus as claimed in claim 28, wherein the processor is further for executing instruction for:

requesting the application information by presenting a number of questions or a number of sets of questions in sequence to said applicant ~~for the two or more of the plurality of application recipients~~; and

adjusting the sequence of questions yet to be presented to the applicant in response to application information supplied by the applicant in response to questions previously presented to the applicant.

52. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 28, wherein the processor is further for executing instruction for ignoring one or more defects in application information returned by the applicant on the basis of preset tolerances for decision certainty.

53. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 28, wherein the processor is further for executing instruction for refraining from requesting certain application information deemed non-critical in some or all circumstances.

54. (Currently Amended) The apparatus as claimed in claim 28, wherein the processor is further for executing instruction for forming ~~form~~ the superset of decision criteria ~~for the two or more of the plurality of application recipients from the respective sets of decision criteria.~~

55. (Currently Amended) The apparatus as claimed in claim 28, wherein the processor is further for executing instruction for determining what application information is required to assess the application against the superset of decision criteria ~~for the two or more of the plurality of application recipients.~~

56. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 32, including:
determining any dependency of any of said decision criteria on any other;
requesting the application information by presenting a number of questions or a number of sets of questions in sequence to the applicant;
promoting in said sequence, ~~so as to be presented~~ and thereby presenting sooner, those questions whose responses render a high, or the greatest possible, number of later questions redundant; and
omitting any questions thereby rendered redundant.

57. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 32, including:
requesting the application information by presenting a number of questions or a

number of sets of questions in sequence to said applicant ~~for the two or more of the~~
~~plurality of application recipients;~~

receiving responses to said questions from said applicant, wherein said
application information constitutes or is determined from said responses; and

~~optimizing said sequence to reduce~~reducing or ~~minimize~~ minimizing said number
of questions or sets of questions by adjusting said sequence.

58. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 32, including:

requesting the application information by presenting a number of questions or a
number of sets of questions in sequence to said applicant ~~for the two or more of the~~

~~plurality of application recipients,~~ said questions comprising groups of questions
pertaining to respective types of application information; and

~~including an introductory question in at least one of said groups of questions to~~
~~reduce~~reducing ambiguity in the respective group of questions by including an
introductory question in at least one of said groups of questions.

59. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 32, including:

requesting the application information by presenting a number of questions or a
number of sets of questions in sequence to said applicant ~~for the two or more of the~~

~~plurality of application recipients; and~~

adjusting the sequence of questions yet to be presented to the applicant in
response to application information supplied by the applicant in response to questions
previously presented to the applicant.

60. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 32, including:

ignoring one or more defects in application information returned by the applicant
on the basis of preset tolerances for decision certainty.

61. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 32, including:

refraining from requesting certain application information deemed non-critical in some or all circumstances.

62. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium containing executable instruction for receiving an application made by an applicant and for accessing the application by a plurality of application recipients, the executable instruction, when executed by a computing apparatus for:

- a) collecting at least two sets of decision criteria from at least two application recipients, each set comprising one or more decision criteria, and each decision criterion having a respective value, boundary or range;
- b) determining a respective union of the values, boundaries or ranges for each respective same decision criterion present in the at least two sets of decision criteria by analyzing the data value, boundary or range boundary requirements of each decision criteria in the at least two sets of decision criteria;
- c) generating a superset of decision criteria which comprises at least one decision criterion from the at least two sets of decision criteria with the determined respective union of values, boundaries or ranges;
- d) determining application information which is required from the applicant to assess the application against the superset of decision criteria for the two or more of the plurality of application recipients;
- e) presenting the applicant with a request for the application information, constituting the application for the two or more of the plurality of application recipients, the application information being requested by queries associated with the superset of decision criteria for the two or more of the plurality of application recipients;
- f) receiving the application information from the applicant;
- g) assessing the application according to the decision criteria of each of the application recipients; and

- h) forming a respective separate assessment for each of the application recipients, wherein each respective separate assessment formed is an approval or a rejection of the application.